

United States Patent [19]

Sprinkel Jr.

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[54] HINGED FILTER SLEEVE

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[52] U.S. Cl. 131/361; 131/336

[58] Field of Search 131/336, 342, 365, 361, 131/362

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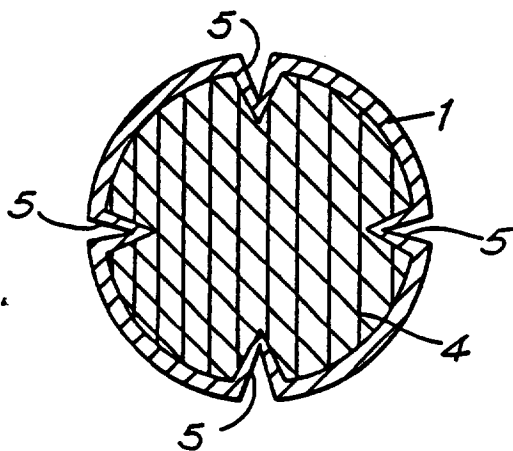
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[57] ABSTRACT

A filter cigarette is provided with a filter assembly having a substantially tubular sleeve with at least one hinge formed in the periphery of the substantially tubular sleeve. The hinge causes the sleeve to be resilient in the radial direction which allows the sleeve diameter to decrease and increase so that the radii of the tobacco rod and filter assembly can be properly matched and the tipping material can be tightly wrapped around the filter assembly.

6 Claims, 1 Drawing Sheet



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